

**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Average  
**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Below Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 18.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

#### Definitions of District Rating Terms

**Excellent-** District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

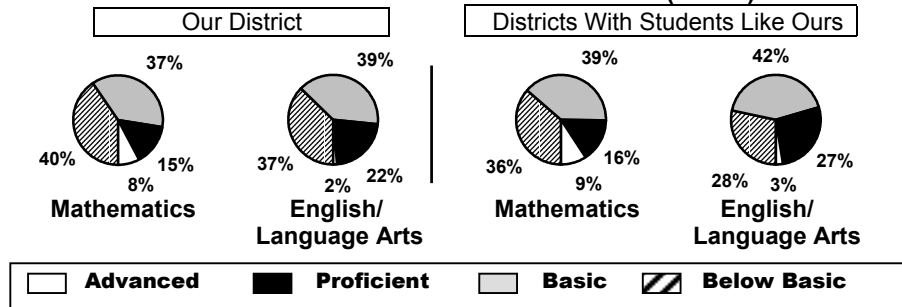
**Good-** District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average-** District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average-** District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory-** District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

### PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



#### DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

#### PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
<b>All Students</b>	86.7%	13.6%	62.7%	59.5%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	57.1%	5.3%	17.3%	18.5%
Students without disabilities	87.4%	13.9%	66.7%	63%
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	84.5%	13.9%	57.2%	57.6%
Female	87.7%	13.3%	69.3%	62%
<b>Ethnic Group</b>				
African-American	75.0%	2.1%	45.8%	41.3%
Hispanic	100.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	91.0%	18.2%	72.9%	70%
Other	100.0%	0.0%	N/A	N/A
<b>Lunch Status</b>				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	73.0%	0.0%	46.9%	45.5%
Pay for Lunch	89.7%	16.0%	77.1%	72.3%

### TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	53.1%	56.5%	63.4%
Passed 2 subtests	22.4%	20.7%	18.1%
Passed 1 subtest	12.7%	13.5%	11.1%
Passed no subtest	11.8%	9.3%	7.3%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	63.1%	66.5%	68.8%
Passed 2 subtests	18.7%	17.7%	16.5%
Passed 1 subtest	11.0%	10.1%	9.3%
Passed no subtest	7.3%	5.7%	5.4%

### LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	13.6%	59.1%	13.6%
Districts Like Ours	20.2%	53.2%	21.5%

**College Admissions Tests:** Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	455	449	455	448	910	897	17.4	19.2	18.8	19.9	17.7	19.9	17.9	19.1	18.1	19.6
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

*These tests were administered to samples of students:*

**Terra Nova Test:** A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

**National Assessment of Education Progress :** A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

#### Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

## DISTRICT PROFILE

### INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Dollars per student	\$6,007	N/A	\$6,303	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	89.4%	Down from 89.6%	89.5%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	21.4 to 1	N/A	21 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	1.2%	N/A	0.4%	0.6%
<b>STUDENTS (n=10,884)</b>				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	28.2%	N/A	48.7%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	95.8%	Down from 96%	95.8%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	1.9%	N/A	4%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	1.7%	N/A	3.7%	4.5%
• Retention rate	4.7%	Up from 3.1%	5.9%	6.0%
<b>TEACHERS (n=738)</b>				
• Professional development days per teacher	9.7 Days	Up from 6.9	7.7 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	94.9%	Up from 94.6%	95.1%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	51.1%	Down from 52%	45.8%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	84.8%	Down from 89%	81.6%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	1.4%	Up from 0.7%	2.2%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	91.1%	Down from 92.5%	90.3%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$37,566	Up 3.6%	\$37,975	\$37,143

## DISTRICT FACTS

<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Annual dropout rate	4.7%	Up from 3.8%	3.1%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	51.7%	N/A	51%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	6	N/A	4.3	3.5
• Parent conferences	86.3%	N/A	84.1%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	20	Up from 19	15	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	1	Up from 0	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	7.6%	N/A	7.1%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	97%	Up from 96.8%	97.6%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$64,341	Up 5.5%	\$65,301	\$64,098
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	258	N/A	166	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	11%	Down from 11.5%	14.1%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	7.6%	Up from 6.3%	10.5%	10.5%

Lancaster School District  
Box 130  
Lancaster, SC 29721

**Grades** K-12

**Enrollment:** 10,884 Students

**Superintendent** John S. Taylor 803-286-6972

**Board Chair** Robert K. Folks 803-416-8806

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
-----------------------------	------

### DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Our mission is to provide all students with a challenging academic program, a safe and supportive learning environment and equal access to diverse educational opportunities and to all available resources so they may achieve their potential and become life-long learners.

In striving to realize our mission, we have created a broad range of opportunities for all students. A strong program aligned closely to the South Carolina Curriculum Standards is in place, and is supplemented by opportunities for involvement in gifted and talented programs, a middle school pre-honors curriculum, and honors and advanced placement course offerings at the high schools. Students experiencing difficulty are given help through multiple academic assistance efforts. Extended learning opportunities give students the chance to participate in after-school learning centers, special summer offerings and in the arts. For these opportunities to result in improved academic achievement, parents must stay involved in their child's education and seek involvement in the broadest range of experiences the child can handle.

While school report cards show a rating for schools, the rating is not a good measure of teacher or school effectiveness because it is based on an average of all children taking the test. Schools and districts vary greatly in student backgrounds, readiness for learning and parental support. At each of our schools there are students reaching high levels of achievement. The appropriate questions for parents are "How is my child doing?" and "What can we do as a school-family team to further improve achievement?"

The PACT is not a test of basic skills. It is a challenging test on tough standards. Preliminary research indicates that a child scoring "basic," would be expected to score somewhere between the 30th and 65th percentile on a nationally normed test. For proficient, the percentile would be 65th to 93rd. For advanced the comparable national percentile would be 94th to the 99th.

If your child scored "below basic," as many of South Carolina's children have, he/she will receive an academic assistance plan and opportunities for extra after-school or summer school assistance. This extra help is critical to help your child achieve the standards.

We value and need parental support as we work with your child and trust that you will stay involved throughout your child's educational journey. John S. Taylor

### South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)